

PRIMARY RECORD

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____
NRHP Status Code _____

Other Listings _____
Review Code _____ Reviewer _____ Date _____

Page 1 of 2 Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) N-206A

P1. Other Identifier: 12' Pressure Wind Tunnel Auxiliary Bldg.

***P2. Location:** ☒ Not for Publication ☐ Unrestricted

***a. County** Santa Clara

***b. USGS 7.5' Quad** San Francisco North, Calif. **Date:** 1995

***c. Address** 345 King Road

City Moffett Field

Zip 94035

***e. Other Locational Data:**

***P3a. Description:** (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

Building N-206A is located on King Road. It is a 60' x 145', 12,000 sq. ft. building with a concrete foundation, painted concrete walls, and a flat roof. This utilitarian building is connected on the west side to Building N-204A, forming an "L" shape. Building N-206A is simple, with minimal ornamental detail. A simple metal coping caps the building at the top. The building has simple, flat, horizontal concrete bands that run across each façade. These bands give definition to the first and second floors. The building has three over three wood, awning windows at both the first and second floor, sandwiched between the concrete bands. At several window openings, metal louvers take the place of the awning windows. A few of the window openings have been filled in. These windows appear in sets of four on the east and west sides. The windows on the King Street façade appear in pairs. The concrete piers separating the groups of windows have scoring that aligns with the window mullions. The building has no clear main entry. Entry into the buildings is via utilitarian metal flush doors that are located in random locations, including "man-doors" in roll-up doors. Miscellaneous ductwork and mechanical equipment from the adjacent wind tunnel are located along the north façade. Building N-206A has a 33' x 33 1/2' addition on the southeast corner. The addition's roofline is higher than that of the original building and has a roll-up door on the second floor, north side. A roll-up door is also located on the west side of the building, at the corner where N-206A joins N-204A. This building appears to be in good condition.

***P3b. Resource Attributes:** (list attributes and codes) HP 39 – Other: Research and Development Building

***P4. Resources Present:** ☒ Building ☐ Structure ☐ Object ☐ Site ☐ District ☐ Element of District ☐ Other

P5a. Photo



P5b. Photo: (view and date)

View of front north façade, (8/04/05)

***P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:** 1969

***P7. Owner and Address:**
United States of America as
represented by National Aeronautics
and Space Administration (NASA)

***P8. Recorded by:**
Page & Turnbull, Inc.
724 Pine Street
San Francisco, CA 94108

***P9. Date Recorded:** 08/04/05

***P10. Survey Type:**
Reconnaissance

***P11. Report Citation:** Lori Neff,
Department of Parks and Recreation
– Historic Resources Inventory "Bldg.
N206A, 12 Ft. Pressure Wind Tunnel
Auxiliaries," (1995).

***Attachments:** ☐ None ☐ Location Map ☐ Sketch Map ☐ Continuation Sheet ☒ Building, Structure, and Object Record
☐ Archaeological Record ☐ District Record ☐ Linear Feature Record ☐ Milling Station Record ☐ Rock Art Record
☐ Artifact Record ☐ Photograph Record ☐ Other (list)

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

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*NRHP Status Code 5D3

*Resource Name or # N-206A

- B1. Historic name: 12 ft. Pressure Wind Tunnel Auxiliaries
B2. Common name: 12 ft. Pressure Wind Tunnel Auxiliaries
B3. Original Use: _____ B4. Present use: _____

*B5. **Architectural Style:** Moderne with 20th-Century Industrial influences

*B6. **Construction History:** (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations)
1946 – Date of Construction; 1994 – Exterior and interior alterations

*B7. **Moved?** ☒ No ☐ Yes ☐ Unknown **Date:** _____ **Original Location:** _____

*B8. **Related Features:**

Significant architectural features include the concrete exterior and steel-sash windows.

B9a. Architect: National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA) Engineers

b. Builder: _____

*B10. **Significance:** Theme Post-War Science and Space Exploration Area NASA Ames Research Center
Period of Significance 1940-1958 Property Type Research Facility Applicable Criteria 1 & 3

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity)
Building N-206A serves as an annex to Building N-206, the 12-ft pressure wind tunnel, which is the only large-scale pressurized, low turbulence, subsonic wind tunnel in the United States. This wind tunnel provides unique high-Reynolds number testing capabilities for the development of high-lift systems commercial transport and military aircraft, and for high angle-of-attach testing of maneuvering aircraft. It is contiguous with Building N-204A.

Building N-206A was one of several research and support buildings built between 1940 and 1958. Founded in 1939, the Ames Research Center was the second aeronautic research facility built for the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA). This research center was vital in the development of the field of aeronautical research and science. Along with new research facilities such as wind tunnels and testing facilities, several support buildings were constructed for the staff, including offices, machine shops, manufacturing facilities, and laboratories. During this time period, these research and support buildings were rendered in an architectural vocabulary, which allowed for a variety of uses and a cohesive campus setting. These buildings were most often, one and two stories in height with concrete structural systems, unpainted concrete exteriors (with scored concrete detailing), and steel or wood-sash awning or hopper windows. They expressed Moderne architectural details with their scored exteriors, tripartite concrete panels (located between windows and doors), concrete entry canopies, and rectilinear configurations. Additionally, these buildings exhibited influences of 20th-Century Industrial architecture with their smooth, concrete exteriors and steel-sash awning and hopper windows. An important aspect of this building is its relationship to Building N-206. In the 1994 renovations, Buildings N-206 and N-206A were essentially shelled out, thus the building retains little architectural integrity. Building N-206A possesses integrity of location, setting, materials, feeling, and association.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) (HP39) -- Research and Development Building

*B12. **References:**

- Lori Neff, *Department of Parks and Recreation – Historic Resources Inventory “Bldg. N206A, 12 Ft. Pressure Wind Tunnel Auxiliaries,”* (1995).
- Edwin Hartman, *Adventures in Research: A History of Ames Research Center, 1940 – 1965* (NASA SP-4302, 1970).
- Elizabeth A. Muenger, *Searching the Horizon: A History of Ames Research Center, 1940 – 1976* (NASA SP-4304, 1985).
- Glenn Burgos, *Atmosphere of Freedom: Sixty Years at the NASA Ames Research Center* (NASA SP-4314, 2000).

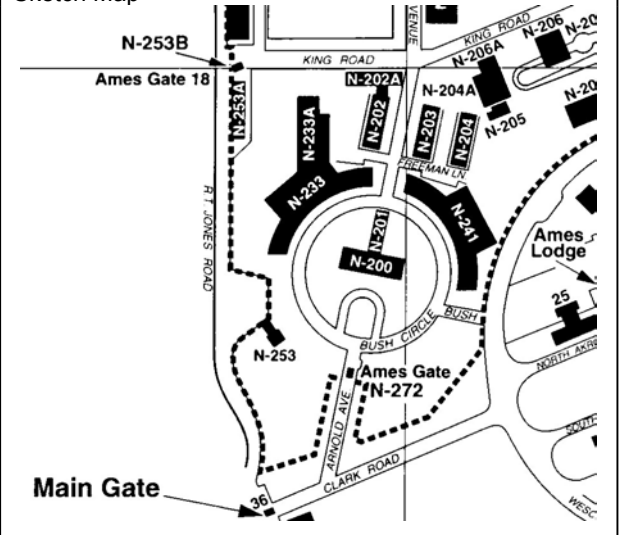
B13. **Remarks:**

In 1995, Section 110 survey documentation of the NASA Ames Research Center was submitted to the California State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

*B14. **Evaluator:** Rich Sucre, Page & Turnbull, Inc.
724 Pine Street, San Francisco, CA 94108

(This space reserved for official comments.)

Sketch Map



*Date of Evaluation: 10/18/2005